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Message Text

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44
ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

DRC-01 /164 W
---------- 057050
R 071524Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 474
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9199

FROM US REP MBFR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM NATO
SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING AM NOV 5

1. SUMMARY: AHG MEETING NOV 5 DEALT WITH PROCEDURES FOR NOV 6 PLENARY MEETING TO BE HELD UNDER CANADIAN CHAIRMANSHIP, HEARD FRG REPORT ON GDR PRESS ALLEGATIONS, APPROVED CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO NATO, AND GAVE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE AHG ASSESSMENT OF WP OPENING STATEMENTS. GROUP THEN TOOK UP MAIN THEMES PAPERS SUBMITTED BY NETHERLANDS, GREECE AND UK. EXPANDED NETHERLANDS OPENING THEMES STATEMENT WAS APPROVED, AS WAS GREEK FLANKS STATEMENTS, FOLLOWING REVISIONS OF BOTH. UK WILL SUBMIT FRESH DRAFT OF ITS STATEMENT FOR AHG CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING. AHG WILL MEET NOV 6 FOLLOWING PLENARY AND AGAIN AM NOV 7. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE AHG MET NOV 5 IN GERMAN EMBASSY UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP

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OF GREEK REP (DOUNTAS). BELGIAN DEPREP (WILLOT) REPORTED POLES
HAD BEEN INFORMED THE WESTERN SIDE WOULD HAVE TWO SPEAKERS
FOR THE NOV 6 PLENARY. THE WP DELEGATES ARE MEETING TODAY AND
WILL INFORM THE ALLIES AS TO WHETHER THEY INTEND TO HAVE SPAKERS
AT TOMORROW'S MEETING. THE BELGIAN AMB IS MEETING SEPARATELY
WITH THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION TO SEEK SIMILAR INFORMATION.
AHG HAD NO BILATERAL CONTACTS TO REPORT OTHER THAN US REPS
DINNER SATURDAY WITH SOV REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNORSKY
AT WHICH NO SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS WERE RAISED. US REP ALSO NOTED
THAT POLISH REP STRULAK WOULD BE HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE
TODAY AT WHICH A US OBSERVER WILL BE PRESENT.

3. FRG REP (BEHRENDS) CALLED ATTENTION TO AN EAST GERMAN
STIMME DER DDR BROADCAST "SOME DAYS AGO" CHARGING THAT A MEETING
OF FRG MILITARY COMMANDERS WITH THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE ON
OCT 30-31 CONSTITUTED AN EFFORT TO EXERT A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE
ON THE MBFR CONFERENCE. BEHRENDS CONSIDERED THIS TO GO BEYOND
THE EAST/WEST UNDERSTANDING ON NON-POLEMICAL PRESS TREATMENT.
AT HIS SUGGESTION THE AHG AGREED TO LET THIS ONE GO BY, BUT
IF THE EAST GERMANS PERSISTED IN SUCH TACTICS, OR RAISED
PRESS COMPLAINTS WITH THE WEST, THE ADN STORY WOULD BE CITED.

4. THE AHG CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO NATO FOR OCT 29-NOV 4, PREPARED
BY THE FRG CHAIRMAN OF LAST WEEK, WAS APPROVED FOLLOWING MINOR
AMENDMENTS (TEXT SEPTEL). THE TEXT OF THE ANALYSIS OF WP
OPENING STATEMENTS (VIENNA 9073) WAS APPROVED AND WILL BE
FORWARDED TO NATO AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

5. IN THE COURSE OF THE MEETING IT WAS DECIDED THE PROCEDURALLY
THE TEXTS OF THE ALLIED MAIN THEMES PAPERS WOULD BE CIRCULATED
IMMEDIATELY IN ADVANCE OF THEIR DELIVERY AT THE PLENARY,
THAT THEY WOULD BE DESIGNATED "FOR CONFERENCE USE" TO PROTECT
THEIR CONFIDENTIALITY, WOULD BE COLLECTED AFTERWARDS FROM THE
INTERPRETERS, AND WOULD BEAR A HEADING GIVING ONLY THE DATE
AND DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER BUT NO SUBJECT MATTER.

6. THE AHG THEN TURNED TO THE REVISED TEXT OF THE OPENING ALLIED
THEME TO BE PRESENTED BY THE DUTCH REP (QUARLES) TOMORROW.
THE SUBJECT MATTER HAD BEEN BROADENED TO EMBRACE OBJECTIVES
OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE AGREED CRITERIA, RATHER THAN BEING
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CONFINED TO UNDIMINISHED SECURITY. QUARLES EXPLAINED THE NEW
EMPHASIS ON SEEKING GREATER STABILITY AS A COUNTER TO THE WP
CONTENTION THAT THE PRESENT MILITARY RELATIONSHIP PROVIDED AN
ACCEPTABLE SITUATION AND THAT ASYMMETRY IS DESTABILIZING.
THIS "MORE POSITIVE" OBJECTIVE, HE POINTED OUT, WILL HAVE AN
EFFECT ON OUR WHOLE PHILOSOPHY IN FURTHER THEMES.

7. AS A SECOND POINT, QUARLES PROPOSED THAT DRAFTING OF WESTERN

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STATEMENTS IN FUTURE BE CONDUCTED BY A PERMANENT ALLIED DRAFTING GROUP IN ORDER TO EMPHASIZE THEIR APPLICABILITY AS COMMON ALLIED POSITIONS AND NOT VIEWS OF NATIONAL DELEGATIONS. SUCH A PROCEDURE WOULD ALSO SAVE A GOOD DEAL OF AHG TIME UNTIL NOW SPENT ON GROUP DRAFTING. THIS PROPOSAL RECEIVED SPECIFIC ENDORSEMENT FROM THE GREEK, ITALIAN, CANADIAN, UK, DANISH, AND US REPS AND WAS ADOPTED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE REP DESIGNATED TO MAKE THE PRESENTATION WOULD FIRST CIRCULATE AN OUTLINE FOR AHG APPROVAL, AFTER WHICH IT WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE OPEN-ENDED DRAFTING GROUP. THE RESULTANT DRAFT WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED FOR AHG APPROVAL.

8. RETURNING TO THE DUTCH STATEMENT, THE AHG CONSIDERED AN ITALIAN PROPOSAL THAT A EUROPEAN CLAUSE BE INSERTED. THE UK AGREED THAT THIS POINT FROM THE OPENING STATEMENTS OF LAST WEEK OUGHT TO BE REPEATED, ESPECIALLY SINCE ONE OF THE EVIDENT INTENTIONS OF THE EASTERN SIDE WOULD BE TO PREVENT DEFENSE COOPERATION WITHIN THE EC, AS WAS INDICATED BY THE REACTION OF "DISINGENIOUS SURPRISE" BY THE SOVIETS LAST WEEK. THE BELGIAN DEPREP EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT REITERATING THIS POINT SO LONG AS THE ALLIES WERE UNABLE TO BE MORE SPECIFIC IN RESPONSE TO PROBABLE WP QUESTIONING. HE FEARED THE EAST WOULD DEDUCE THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WERE REFUSING TO REDUCE AT ALL. A EUROPEAN UNION, IN HIS VIEW, MEANT THAT NATIONALITIES AND BORDERS WOULD DISAPPEAR, AND HE WAS CONCERNED LEST A FORCE REDUCTION AGREEMENT CARRY WITH IT A LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF NATIONALITIES AND BORDERS, E.G., RESTRICTIONS ON MILITARY MOVEMENTS ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS. MBFR, HE STRESSED, WAS NOT A NEGOTIATION ABOUT EUROPEAN UNION, AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE EC TO MBFR WAS NOT CLEAR. THE FRG AND DANISH REPS ALSO DISPLAYED HESITATIONS, BUT AGREEMENT WAS FINALLY REACHED ON A PARA READING: "WE WISH TO RECORD OUR VIEW THAT IN GENERAL TERMS THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE EC TO ESTABLISH A EUROPEAN CONFIDENTIAL

UNION BY 1980 IS A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO A MORE STABLE RELATIONSHIP IN EUROPE. THIS IS WHY WE WILL INSURE THAT THE OUTCOME OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHALL NOT PREJUDICE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY THE EVOLUTION OF A EUROPEAN UNION." FULL TEXT OF DUTCH STATEMENT, AS AMENDED, BY SEPTEL.

9. CHAIRMAN THEN TOOK UP THE RVISED DRAFT THEME STATEMENT ON DISPARITIES WHICH WILL BE DELIVERED BY UK REP AT NOV 8 PLENARY. UK REP DISCUSSED THE VARIOUS CHANGES WHICH HE HAD INCORPORATED INTO THE PAPER AND A PAGE BY PAGE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED. INFAL APPROVED DRAFT VERSION IN SEPTEL. US REP QUETIONED WISDOM OF EARLY USE OF FIGURES IN DESCRIBING DISPARITIES BETWEEN WP GROUND FORCES AND NATO GROUND FORCES IN NGA AND BETWEEN THE US/SOVIET GROUND FORCES STRENGTH FIGURES. US REP REASONED THAT SUCH USE OF FIGURES COULD REQUIRE WARSAW PACT REP

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TO TAKE EARLY POSITION AND THAT IT WOULD BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO HOLD BACK ALLIED PRESENTATION OF DATEA UNTIL AFTER SOME INITIAL EASTERN REACTION WAS AVAILABLE, AS A GUIDE TO THE MOST EFFECTIVE ALLIED TACTICS.

10. UK REP ASSERTED THAT IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO PRSENT DIS-PARITIES WITHOUT ORDER OF MAGNITUDE FIGURES. US REP STATED THAT USE OF ORDER OF MAGNITUDE WOULD DEPART FROM AGREED FIGURES AND THAT THE USE OF RATIOS WOULD NOT IN ALL CASES BE CORRECT AT THIS TIME SINCE FULL AGREEMENT ON RATIOS HAD THUS FAR NOT BEEN REACHED. US DEPREP RECOMMENDED THE USE OF ADJECTIVAL FORMULATING INSTEAD OF FIGURES, WHICH IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THEY WERE NOT CHALLENGED BY THE SOVIETS WOULD BE OF ADVANTAGE LATER ON. THEIR USE WOULD REQUIRE THE WARSAW PACT TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO CHALLENGE THEM, PERHAPS GIVING ALLIES A USEFUL TACTICAL LEAD FOR INTRODUCTION OF FIGURES AT WESTERN CHOOSING. UK REP AGREED TO ELIMINATE THE REFERENCE TO US AND SOVIET STRENGTH FIGURES FROM HIS DRAFT AND OFFERED TO SUBMIT A NEW VERSION AT THE AHG MEETING ON AFTERNOON NOV 6. US REP THEN SAID ALLIES SHOULD BE SURE OF THEIR FACTS IF THEY WISHED TO REFER TO WARSAW PACT TANK DEPLOYMENT AS "WELL FORWARD". A RAPID ANALYSIS OF UNIT LOCATION OF BOTH WARSAW PACT AND NATO FORCES IN RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FRG/GDR BORDER DID NOT BEAR OUT THIS CONTENTION CLEARLY. UK REP AGREED TO REEXAMINE PHRASE TO SEEK MORE WATERTIGHT FORMULATION.HUMES
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